

# YOUR HELP IS CRUCIAL!

AND YOU CAN HELP A LITTLE MORE  
ONLY BY READING THIS.

During a crisis and refugee movements criminal gangs, often referred to as traffickers, are also activated to trap and exploit vulnerable people.

By reading this leaflet you can play a key role in supporting such victims by linking them to protection services.

# WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking is a serious crime. Traffickers recruit, transport, transfer, harbor and receive persons by using means of threats, force, coercion, manipulation, psychological pressure, fraud or deception for the purpose of exploitation. It can take many forms:

- labour exploitation or forced labour
- sexual exploitation
- involvement in criminal activities
- forced begging
- forced marriage
- domestic servitude
- illegal adoption
- debt bondage
- organ removal
- slavery or practices similar to slavery

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE IN REAL LIFE?

Usually traffickers look for victims in a vulnerable situation and offer them help to solve their problem by offering transportation, accommodation, jobs or study opportunities. This might be happening now at the border areas, during transportation, at places of accommodation, train stations or any other public places. And make no mistake, victims can be women, men, girls and boys as well.

Traffickers generally ask victims to undertake labour services or sex acts to repay 'debts', in exchange for providing the services mentioned above. They are often isolated, locked up, without any access to phones or other means of communication while traffickers use physical, emotional, mental and economic control over them. Also, traffickers regularly take away the victim's passport and money to control their movement and keep them in this exploitative situation.

## HOW CAN YOU SPOT IT?

Please look for the warning signs of potential victims. They might...

- show signs that their movements are being controlled
- be distressed, fearful and look like they cannot leave the situation
- have injuries
- be disoriented, confused or showing signs of mental or physical abuse
- not be in possession of their passports or other travel or identity documents, as those documents are being held by someone else
- have false identity or travel documents
- show signs of having been denied food, water, sleep or medical care
- live in unsuitable conditions
- avoid eye contact, social interaction, and authority figures
- seem to adhere to scripted or rehearsed responses in social interaction
- allow a third person speak on her/his behalf

Although not all indicators listed above are present in every human trafficking situation, but a little more opened eye can save lives.



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

First things first, do not attempt to confront a suspected trafficker. Your safety as well as the victim's safety is the most important. Instead, please contact local law enforcement who are in charge of suspected cases of human trafficking.

In case you would like to learn more about this topic, or your organization is interested in training on countering trafficking, feel free to get in touch with IOM Hungary colleagues.

Don't forget, a false alarm is always better than a missed one.

**IOM EMERGENCY HOTLINE: 0680 984 544**

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